

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANTANA 01334 211248Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 EB-07 OMB-01 AGRE-00 TRSE-00 IGA-02 AID-05  
/072 W

-----015857 212016Z /75

R 211142Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9485

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANTANANARIVO 1334

E.O. 11652:GDS  
TAGS: EAID, PDIP, PINT, CN, US  
SUBJECT: SITUATION IN COMORO ISLANDS

REF: ANTANANARIVO 1298

1. SUMMARY. ACCORDING TO UNDP RESREP IN ANTANANARIVO,  
GOVERNMENT OF COMORO ISLANDS (GCI) IS COMPLETELY WITHOUT  
FUNDS. END SUMMARY.

2. FROM VARIOUS SOURCES, INCLUDING RECENT IMF/IBRD VISITORS  
TO THE COMOROS, UNDP RESREP IN ANTANANARIVO HAS LEARNED THAT  
GCI HAS EXHAUSTED ITS FUNDS AND THAT ITS TREASURY IS NOW USING  
LOCAL DEPOSITS OF PRIVATE PARTIES FOR DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS.  
REPORTEDLY, CIVIL SERVANTS HAVE NOT BEEN PAID FOR MONTHS OF  
MAY AND JUNE. THIS IN ITSELF MAY NOT BE AS SERIOUS AS IT  
SOUNDS, AS WE UNDERSTAND THAT MOST CIVIL SERVANTS WERE DISMISSED  
MONTHS AGO AND THAT PRESENT HANDFUL ARE ALL LOYAL FOLLOWERS OF  
ALI SOILIH. NEVERTHELESS, IMF/IBRD VISITORS OF IMPRESSION THAT  
PRESENT FINANCIAL STATE OF AFFAIRS CANNOT CONTINUE MUCH LONGER  
WITHOUT SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.

3. UNDP HAS NO RECENT FIGURES ON FOOD REQUIREMENTS, BUT  
WAS INFORMED SOME MONTHS AGO THAT IMPORT REQUIREMENTS  
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FOR SIX MONTHS WERE 3,200 TONS RICE AND 2,200 TONS WHEAT  
FLOUR. HOWEVER, UNDP REPORTS THAT GCI WISHES TO SUBSTI-  
TUTE CORN FOR RICE IN COMORAN DIET, AS THIS CROP MORE  
EASILY GROWN ON THE ISLANDS. THEREFORE, A VERY ROUGH  
ESTIMATE FOR ANNUAL EXTERNAL FOOD REQUIREMENTS MAY BE  
3,000-4,000 TONS EACH OF RICE, CORN, AND WHEAT FLOUR.  
APPARENTLY FOOD SUPPLY SITUATION FURTHER COMPLICATED BY

LIMITED STORAGE FACILITIES WHICH RESTRICT MAXIMUM SHIPMENTS  
TO ABOUT 1,000 TONS AT ANY ONE TIME.

4. UNDP RESREP PLANS TRIP TO COMORO ISLANDS JULY 26-30,  
AND EMBASSY HOPES TO BE ABLE TO UPDATE THIS REPORT IN  
EARLY AUGUST.BARRETT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FINANCIAL CRISIS, GOVERNMENT REVENUES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ANTANA01334  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770260-0094  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 ANTANANARIVO 1298  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1796665  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SITUATION IN COMORO ISLANDS  
**TAGS:** EAID, PDIP, PINT, PGOV, CN, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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